

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3948

S E C R E T LUSAKA 2282

NODIS

CHEROKEE

PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, RH, ZA

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND THE DAR
MEETINGS

REF: (A) SECTO 26015 (B) LUSAKA 2277

1. I DELIVERED THE SECRETARY'S LETTER OF SEPTEMBER 4 TO CHONA AT NOON. KAUNDA IS NOT EXPECTED BACK UNTIL QUITE LATE THIS AFTERNOON AND WILL LEAVE TOMORROW MORNING FOR DAR. CHONA PLANS TO CONTACT ME THIS EVENING WITH PRESIDENT'S REACTIONS TO THE TWO LETTERS OF SEPTEMBER 3 AND 4.

2. CHONA REPEATED MANY OF THE COMMENTS MADE LAST NIGHT (REFTEL B), ADDING THAT HE RECOGNIZED THAT THERE WAS A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY NOW ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE FRONT LINE PRESIDENTS TO PRODUCE A VIABLE NATIONALIST GROUPING. THIS PERMITTED ME TO ASK WHETHER ALL THE LEADERS WOULD BE AT DAR ES SALAAM, PARTICULARLY NKOMO. CHONA ANSWERED WITHOUT HESITATION, "YES, CERTAINLY," AND ADDED THAT IF THE PRESIDENT (KAUNDA) INVITED HIM TO GO HE WAS SURE HE WOULD DO SO. NKOMO, HE SAID, HAS A GREAT FEELING OF LOYALTY TO KAUNDA. FOR EXAMPLE, HE RECEIVED A MESSAGE IN NAIROBI TO GO DIRECTLY TO DAR BUT INSTEAD RETURNED HERE. I SAID THAT I UNDERSTOOD

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NKOMO WAS CONSIDERING RETURNING TO SALISBURY AND WONDERED

WHETHER THIS MIGHT NOT MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR US TO CONSULT DURING THIS NEXT CRUCIAL PERIOD. CHONA SAID HE AGREED FULLY THAT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE FOR NKOMO TO RETURN TO RHODESIA AT THIS POINT AND SAID THAT HE AND THE PRESIDENT WOULD TALK HIM OUT OF IT.

3. CHONA SAID HE THOUGHT SCHAUFELLE'S PRESENCE IN DAR WAS ENTIRELY "LOGICAL". HE SAID HE HAD SPECULATED YESTERDAY WHETHER SOMONE FROM THE AMERICAN GROUP WOULD NOT COME DOWN TO THE DAR MEETING WHEN HE SAW THAT VORSTER WOULD NOT MEET WITH THE SECRETARY ON SUNDAY. LOW

SECRET

NNN

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